

Seasonal Influenza Vaccine 2025-2026 Memo

Dear Colleagues,

This memo summarizes seasonal influenza vaccination recommendations for patients of Lucile Packard Children's Hospital (LPCH) Stanford and Clinics for the 2025-2026 influenza season.

The inpatient and outpatient EMR-based processes for screening and vaccinating patients at LPCH Stanford and Clinics will "Go Live" on September 15, 2025. It is likely that flu viruses, the virus that causes COVID-19, and other respiratory viruses will spread this Fall and Winter. This past flu season was one of the worst we have seen in recent history with multiple hospitalizations and deaths related to influenza. This means that flu vaccination is more important than ever. There is no anticipated shortage of flu vaccine supply, and we encourage and recommend all eligible patients to be vaccinated.

A trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine is designed to protect against three different flu viruses, including two influenza A viruses and one influenza B virus. All flu vaccines in the United States for the 2025-2026 season are trivalent vaccines. The following trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine will be offered at LPCH Stanford Hospital and Clinics for the 2025-2026 influenza season:

- **For patients ≥ 6 months of age (including pregnant persons): FLUARIX TRIVALENT (0.5 mL, preservative-free, GSK)**

Other important reminders:

1. Annual influenza vaccination is recommended for ALL persons aged ≥ 6 months, including pregnant patients, unless contraindicated. Vaccination ideally should occur in September or October but will continue throughout the season.
2. Children 6 months through 8 years of age need only one dose of influenza vaccine in 2025-2026 if they received a total of 2 or more doses of influenza vaccine ≥ 4 weeks apart before July 1, 2025. The two previous doses need not have been given during the same season or consecutive seasons. For children 6 months through 8 years of age who require two doses of the vaccine, the second dose should be given at least four weeks after the first.
3. Patients with egg allergy of *any* severity may receive any flu vaccine (egg-based or non-egg based) that is otherwise appropriate for their age and health status. Additional safety measures beyond those recommended for the receipt of any vaccine are no longer recommended.
4. The influenza and COVID vaccines can be given on the same day (administered in different injection sites) for patients eligible to receive both vaccines.
5. **Contraindications and/or precautions for the influenza vaccine include:**
 - a. Previous history of severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to influenza vaccination or component of the influenza vaccine (contraindication).
 - b. Prior history of Guillain-Barré syndrome within 6 weeks after a previous influenza vaccine (precaution).
 - c. Patient currently admitted for receipt of hematopoietic stem cell transplant (LPCH-specific precaution).
 - d. Patient with history of solid organ transplant within the past 30 days or hematopoietic stem cell transplant within the past 6 months (LPCH-specific precaution).

Additional information regarding influenza vaccination is available at the links below:

- [Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices \(ACIP\) 2025-2026 Influenza Vaccination Summary of Recommendations](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) 2025-2026 Flu Vaccination Recommendations](#)
- [US Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\) – Talking to your Patients About Flu, COVID-19, and RSV Vaccines](#)
- [ACOG - Influenza in Pregnancy: Prevention and Treatment](#)
- [AAP Immunization Schedule](#)

Please contact us with any questions or concerns. Thank you for helping us ensure the health and safety of our patients.

Sincerely,

Aslam Khan, DO, Lauren O'Brien, MD, MPH, Desiree LaBeaud, MD, MS, Natali Aziz, MD, and Lauren Puckett, PharmD on behalf of the LPCH Stanford Integrated Infectious Diseases Program